



05-17-06

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2623
\$PATENTS
UV-226IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant : Michael D. Ellis
Application No. : 09/996,346
Confirmation No. : 1971
Filed : November 28, 2001
For : ELECTRONIC PROGRAM GUIDE WITH BLACKOUT
FEATURES
Group Art Unit : 2623
Examiner : Jason P. Salce

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATIONExpress Mail Label No. EV674901388USDate of Deposit: May 16, 2006

I hereby certify that this certification and the
following papers:

1. Transmittal Letter (3 pp. in duplicate)
2. Reply to Office Action (2 pp.); and
3. Return postcard.

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service
"Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under
37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and are
addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Name: Isatta B. Smith



Express Mail No. EV674901388US
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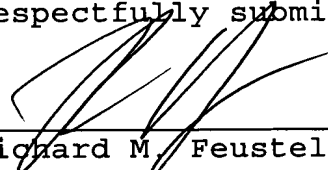
REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies provided in the telephone conference with the undersigned on May 15, 2006. As discussed in the telephone conference, applicant filed a preliminary amendment on February 12, 2002 canceling claims and reducing the total number of claims from 432 to 132. The preliminary amendment was received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 20, 2002.

Applicant respectfully requests that the March 23,
2006 restriction requirement be rescinded.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard M. Feustel, Jr.
Registration No. 46,698
Attorney for Applicant
Fish & Neave IP Group
Ropes & Gray LLP
Customer No. 1473
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020
Tel.: (212) 596-9000
Fax: (212) 596-9090